

Senate Resolution 859

By: Senators Hill of the 32nd, Rogers of the 21st, Shafer of the 48th, Hawkins of the 49th, Butterworth of the 50th and others

ADOPTED SENATE**A RESOLUTION**

1 Urging the Minerals Management Service of the United States Department of the Interior to
2 include all outer continental shelf planning areas in its proposed five-year plan for 2010
3 through 2015 and to approve the broadest possible five-year plan for offshore development;
4 and for other purposes.

5 WHEREAS, the outer continental shelf is home to wide areas of recreational and commercial
6 activities, as well as some of the nation's most fertile areas of oil and natural gas production,
7 while also offering the largest area available in the eastern United States for the large-scale
8 production of wind energy; and

9 WHEREAS, the development of oil and natural gas resources where allowed off our shores
10 has coexisted for decades with these other activities while benefiting coastal residents and
11 noncoastal Americans alike; and

12 WHEREAS, offshore development of oil and natural gas has provided needed supplies of
13 American energy and substantial local, state, and federal revenues; and

14 WHEREAS, offshore development of wind energy resources has proven highly successful
15 in many areas of the world; and

16 WHEREAS, the offshore oil and natural gas industry and the wind power industry provide
17 thousands of jobs and are important sources of economic development; and

18 WHEREAS, offshore oil and natural gas production operations and wind energy production
19 have a long history of environmentally sensitive and safe performance, and other federal
20 Atlantic outer continental shelf areas, such as those offshore of Virginia, the Carolinas, and
21 Georgia, should also be studied for their resource potential; and

22 WHEREAS, today, areas of the outer continental shelf offer some of the greatest potential
23 for American energy resources, including the Sale 181 area, the Eastern Gulf of Mexico, and
24 the area known as the North Aleutian Basin.

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
26 join in urging the Minerals Management Service of the United States Department of the
27 Interior to include all outer continental shelf planning areas in its proposed five-year plan for
28 2010 through 2015 and to approve the broadest possible five-year plan for offshore
29 development and to enact regulations that provide for sharing public revenues generated from
30 these offshore energy policies with coastal states.

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
32 to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to the United States Secretaries of
33 Commerce, the Interior, and Energy and to the administrators of the Minerals Management
34 Service, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric
35 Administration, and the Environmental Protection Agency.